## LAW OFFICE

## THOMAS F. McFarland, P.C.

208 South LaSalle Street - Suite 1890 Chicago, Illinois 60604-1112 Telephone (312) 236-0204

Fax (312) 201-9695 mcfarland@aol.com

THOMAS F MCFARLAND

August 2, 2013

## By first-class, U.S. mail

Minnesota Department of Transportation Transportation Building 395 John Ireland Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155 U.S. Dept. of Defense (SDDCTEA) Attn: Railroads for National Defense 709 Ward Drive Bldg. 1990, Room 2E264 Scott AFB, IL 62225

U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service Cultural Resources, Rm. 3126 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 U.S. Department of Agriculture Chief of the Forest Service 4<sup>th</sup> Floor N.W., Sidney R. Yates Federal Bldg. 14<sup>th</sup> Street & Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250

Re: STB Docket No. AB-497 (Sub-No. 6X), Minnesota Northern Railroad, Inc. -- Abandonment Exemption -- in Polk County, MN

Dear Agency or Department Representative:

By virtue of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d), Minnesota Northern Railroad, Inc. (MNN) is required to provide notice to you of the imminent filing at the Surface Transportation Board (STB) by MNN of a Petition for Exemption from 49 U.S.C. § 10903 for its abandonment of a portion of its Ada Subdivision between milepost No. 66.8 north of Beltrami and milepost No. 64.0 (end of track) at or near Beltrami, a distance of 2.8 miles in Polk County, Minnesota ("the Rail Line").

The proposed abandonment will affect U.S. Postal Zip Code 56517. It is anticipated that the Petition for Exemption will be filed on or about August 31, 2013.

It appears that the Rail Line contains federally-granted right-of-way. Documentation in that respect would be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Agency/Dept. Representative August 2, 2013 Page 2

You may direct any questions about the proposed abandonment to the undersigned as representative of MNN.

Very truly yours,

Thomas F. McFarland

Attorney for Minnesota Northern Railroad, Inc.

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cc: (by e-mail)

Surface Transportation Board, Environmental Section

Mr. Lee Lautt